

What is Claimed is:

1. Apparatus for attachment over an ostium of a left atrial appendage in a patient, comprising:

a membrane configured to extend over the ostium of the left atrial appendage, the membrane  
5 having an outer periphery with a dimension larger than a corresponding dimension of the ostium; and

securement means to secure the outer periphery of the membrane in direct engagement with the atrial wall surrounding the ostium.

2. The apparatus defined in claim 1, wherein the securement means is located between the outer periphery of the membrane and the atrial wall surrounding the ostium.

3. The apparatus defined in claim 2, wherein the securement means comprises an adhesive applied between the outer periphery of the membrane and the atrial wall surrounding the membrane.

4. The apparatus defined in claim 3, wherein the adhesive is cyanoacrylate.

5. The apparatus defined in claim 2, wherein the securement means comprises a plurality of engagement members attached to the membrane at a plurality of locations about the outer periphery of the  
5 membrane.

6. The apparatus defined in claim 5, wherein the engagement members are configured to penetrate the atrial wall surrounding the ostium.

7. The apparatus defined in claim 6,  
wherein the engagement members each comprise a barbed  
configuration to engage the atrial wall surrounding the  
ostium to inhibit removal of the engagement member from  
5 the atrial wall.

8. The apparatus defined in claim 5,  
wherein the engagement members each comprise a shank  
portion extending distally from the outer periphery of  
the membrane and at least partially into the ostium.

9. The apparatus defined in claim 8,  
wherein the engagement members mounted on opposite  
sides of the membrane define a spacing substantially  
identical to an interior dimension of the ostium.

10. The apparatus defined in claim 8,  
wherein the engagement members each comprise a barbed  
configuration to engage an interior wall of the atrial  
appendage.

11. The apparatus defined in claim 1,  
wherein the securement means comprises a structure  
configured to extend distally from the membrane into  
the ostium and to engage a portion of the interior the  
5 left atrial appendage.

12. The apparatus defined in claim 11,  
wherein the securement means is configured for  
enlargement in response to expansion of an expansion  
structure located in an interior portion of the  
5 securement means.

13. The apparatus defined in claim 11,  
wherein the securement means is resiliently biased in a

enlarged configuration for engagement with the interior wall of the left atrial appendage and may be  
5 constrained in a reduced size configuration for installation in the left atrial appendage.

14. The apparatus defined in claim 1,  
wherein the membrane has a permeable structure which allows blood to flow through the membrane but substantially inhibits thrombus from passing  
5 therethrough.

15. The apparatus defined in claim 1,  
wherein the membrane has an impermeable structure which substantially inhibits thrombus and blood from passing therethrough.

16. The apparatus defined in claim 1,  
wherein the securement means comprises membrane supporting structure attached to the outer periphery of the membrane and configured to extend radially outward  
5 from the ostium to secure the outer periphery of the membrane in direct engagement with the atrial wall surrounding the ostium.